

Peninsular Florida Workshop

Breakout Session 2, December 10, 2009

Group 1

Question 1 – What are we currently doing well related to SHC? What are our shortcomings?

Doing Well

- Conservation Delivery
- Lots of Planning Info
 - Recovery Plans
 - CCP's
 - Mig Bird plans
- Conservation Design
 - SWAP
 - CERP
- Partnerships
 - Coop invasive species management
 - w/state – ES, Refuges/LE
- Some assumption-driven research
- Some outcome-based monitoring
 - Manatee
 - Everglades H2O quality
 - Everglades assessment/monitoring program
- Good communication internally in SFL

Shortcomings

- Could improve delivery effectiveness
 - Need additional resources – e.g., on refuges
- Planning is piece-meal – not comprehensive
 - Not sure they are always being implemented
 - Quality is questionable in some cases
 - Not commonly shared
- Conservation design is piece-meal – not across the board
- Need climate change/species vulnerability info
- Assumption-driven research is piece-meal – not across the board
- No comprehensive monitoring capability – info not always accessible to others.
- Need to improve communication with stakeholders
 - Not consistent across the geography or between programs; i.e., no coalescing around common issues.

Question 2 – How can we fill these gaps?

- Refuges – develop habitat management plans
 - Consider landscape conservation context
- Set joint priorities – once we do this we'll be much better able to determine what additional capabilities are needed to fill gaps
- Communication coordinator – w/partners, public, new technology
- Standard monitoring protocols – across agencies/geography/range
- Common/coordinated data storage warehouse
- Develop climate change data/assessments

Question 3 – What specific functions would an LCC address and why (vs other actions/entities)?

LCC

- Common coordination
- Developing monitoring protocols
- Develop data storage/protocols (facilitate)
- Climate change data/species assessment – w/climate hubs

Others

- Priorities/goals
 - Each partner
 - Collectively
- Refuge management plans
- Common coordination
- Species vulnerability assessments

Question 4 – How do we want to contribute to setting LCC priorities?

- Synthesize existing info to get a better assessment of threats/needs/opportunities
- Outline process for discussing with partners
- Develop process for communicating priorities/needs to LCC
 - Opportunity for all to participate

Question 5 – How should we broaden the dialogue? Who should be involved?

- Steering Committee should develop plan
 - External
- Need to develop common message – steering committee can help with this
- Project Leaders need to go back and talk to staff

- Feed back up

Question 6 – What specific actions need to be taken to keep this dialogue going and move this effort forward?

- Need coordinator
- First thing – need steering committee to guide coordinator
 - Should represent programs and key agencies
- Need to develop plan for engagement to develop common goals/priorities
- Need to develop key documents for inreach/outreach
 - What we're trying to do
 - Why it matters to Peninsular FL and to potential partners
 - Benefits
- Need to develop those goals/priorities
- Simplify fact sheets
- Canned presentation/webinars w/consistent message

Question 7 – Timelines

- Synch up with FFWCC revision to SWAP
 - Done by end of FY 2011.
- Steering committee established by Dec. 30, 2009
- Steering committee prepare outreach docs by Jan. 31, 2010
- Each PL talk to staff by Feb. 14, 2010
- Feedback to steering committee by Feb 28, 2010
- Designate coordinator (at least interim/detail) by Dec. 30, 2009

Group 2

Question 1 – What are we currently doing well related to SHC? What are our shortcomings?

Doing Well

- Assumption-driven research with USGS
- Excellent partner network
- Acknowledge potential impact of climate change and actively trying to define impacts
- Conservation delivery
 - Site scale
- Environmental education

Opportunities for Improvement

- Lack of centralized databases
- Lack of monitoring and standardized monitoring
- Integrating partner networks
- Prioritizing our conservation delivery at landscape scale
- Education about landscape conservation
- Adaptive management
- Strategic approach to land protection
- Talk with partners about SHC and LCCs (now)
- Need clear goals and objectives for LCC
- Need some direction and need to know who steering committee member is

Question 2 – How can we fill these gaps? What can we do?

- Centralized database
- Document/QA/QC metadata for what we do. Available for partners at stations
- Lack of standardized monitoring
- Adopting NPS I&M protocols
- Look to existing protocols
- Coordinate for species/habitats we are responsible for

Question 3 – What specific functions would an LCC address and why (vs other actions/entities)?

- Include/engage partners
- Prioritize landscape scale needs and provide guidance – are we missing opportunities for significant conservation?
- Set goals at landscape scale

- Guidance on coordinated response to climate change – using same models, assumptions, etc.
- Coordinate pooling of resources
- Ensure scientific basis for setting priorities

Question 4 – How do we want to contribute to setting LCC priorities?

- Working group reports to steering committee
- Service group via steering committee member
- Need way to gather input to funnel to working groups and steering committee

Question 5 – How should we broaden the dialogue? Who should be involved?

- We (people at this meeting) go back talk with staff
- Go to working groups and give the 30 second overview

Question 6 – What specific actions need to be taken to keep this dialogue going and move this effort forward?

- Get LCC white paper to all for conversation
- Define what the Service working group is for Peninsular FL and who
- Directorate show constant support, encouragement, messaging
- Project leaders go back and discuss with staff
- People here start dialog with working group
- Ecoteam – expand membership
- Help ID who should be on steering committee

Question 7 – Timelines

Nothing reported

Group 3

Question 1 – What are we currently doing well related to SHC? What are our shortcomings?

Doing Well

- Many strong, longstanding partnerships
 - CERP
 - CISMAS
- Conservation delivery
- Some studies (MUSIC, Clim. Env.)

Opportunities for Improvement/Shortcomings

- Monitoring
- Landscape planning
- Conservation design

Question 2 – How can we fill these gaps? What can we do?

- Perspective – large scale
 - Inventory of needs
 - ID best methods in appropriate places

Question 3 – What specific functions would an LCC address and why (vs other actions/entities)?

- GIS/spatial analysis
- Population modeling
- Landscape modeling
- Hydrology
- Genetics
- Communication
- Statistics
- Monitoring design
- Engineering?
- Legal/realty
- Web/IT
- database

Question 4, 5 – nothing reported

Question 6 – What specific actions need to be taken to keep this dialogue going and move this effort forward?

- Expand SFL Ecoteam
- Establish LCC development group and LCC coordinator (spring 2010 or sooner)
- Standard message from FWS
- Gather partners, talk, meet
- Internal FWS meetings
- Link to State Legacy Plan
- Coordinate w/RO Climate Team
- Jan 2010 talking points/messages
- Conferences – Everglades Coalition, FL Academy of Sciences, GEER,

Question 7 – nothing reported

Group 4

Question 1 – What are we currently doing well related to SHC? What are our shortcomings?

Doing Well

- Working with partners, reaching more areas
 - Invasives issues, control
 - Everglades restoration and CERP
 - Plant invasive partnership – reaching private lands/neighboring protected areas
 - SARP, other large cooperative partnerships
- Prescribed burning – looked at this activity from a landscape perspective
- MIT study

Shortcomings

- CISMA – need to design in focus to meet natural vegetation goals
- Refuge CCPs – need more context, landscape level considerations in CCPs (LCC can provide better step-down objectives from landscape scale plans)
- Water quality and quantity – need more input on refuge water needs
- Need more long term data sets
- Assumption-driven research – return loop is weak

Question 2 – How can we fill these gaps?

- Elevate these to LCC as needs
- Take inventory of needs (monitoring, mapping, etc.)
- Identify the most effective techniques and in the appropriate locations
- Anticipate future habitat changes on landscape from climate change

Question 3 – What specific functions would an LCC address and why (vs other actions/entities)?

- Species or habitat experts
- Need to provide landscape level info
- Oceanographer
- GIS spatial analysis
- Population and spatial modeling assistance
- Landscape level modeling
- Hydrologic expertise
- Genetics
- Prescribed fire expertise
- Decision support expertise
- Communications

- Statistical analysis
- Monitoring
- Realty/legal assistance
- Engineering – coastal
- Web-based assistance
- Database management

Question 4 – How do we want to contribute to setting LCC priorities?

- Inventory/review what State of FL has done for direction
- Ask LCC to better define boundaries
- Pay to Play (resources, capacity, expertise, time, etc.)
- Build on partnership already underway and establish links with LCC

Question 5 – How should we broaden the dialogue? Who should be involved?

- Steering Committee should develop plan
 - External
- Need to develop common message – steering committee can help with this
- Project Leaders need to go back and talk to staff
 - Feed back up

Question 6 – What specific actions need to be taken to keep this dialogue going and move this effort forward?

- Need guidance on how to proceed for Peninsular FL
- Expand current SFL ecoteam to entire LCC
 - Ensure to invite State and use State management plan
- Establish temp LCC coordinator
- Create standard message (may need EA help)
- PL provide guidance to temp LCC coordinator then LCC coordinator gives to RO for approval
- Hold partner meeting
- Have internal FWS meeting

Question 7 – Timelines

- Inform RO what State is doing (Dec. 17, 2009)
- Jump to be a part of State Legacy Plan
- Existing FL and LCC coordinator coordinate with Regional Climate Team
- Must have LCC coordinator by spring 2010

- Need a list of key partners outside of FWS developed by each PL
- Jan 2010 meeting – prepare talking points, messages

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